

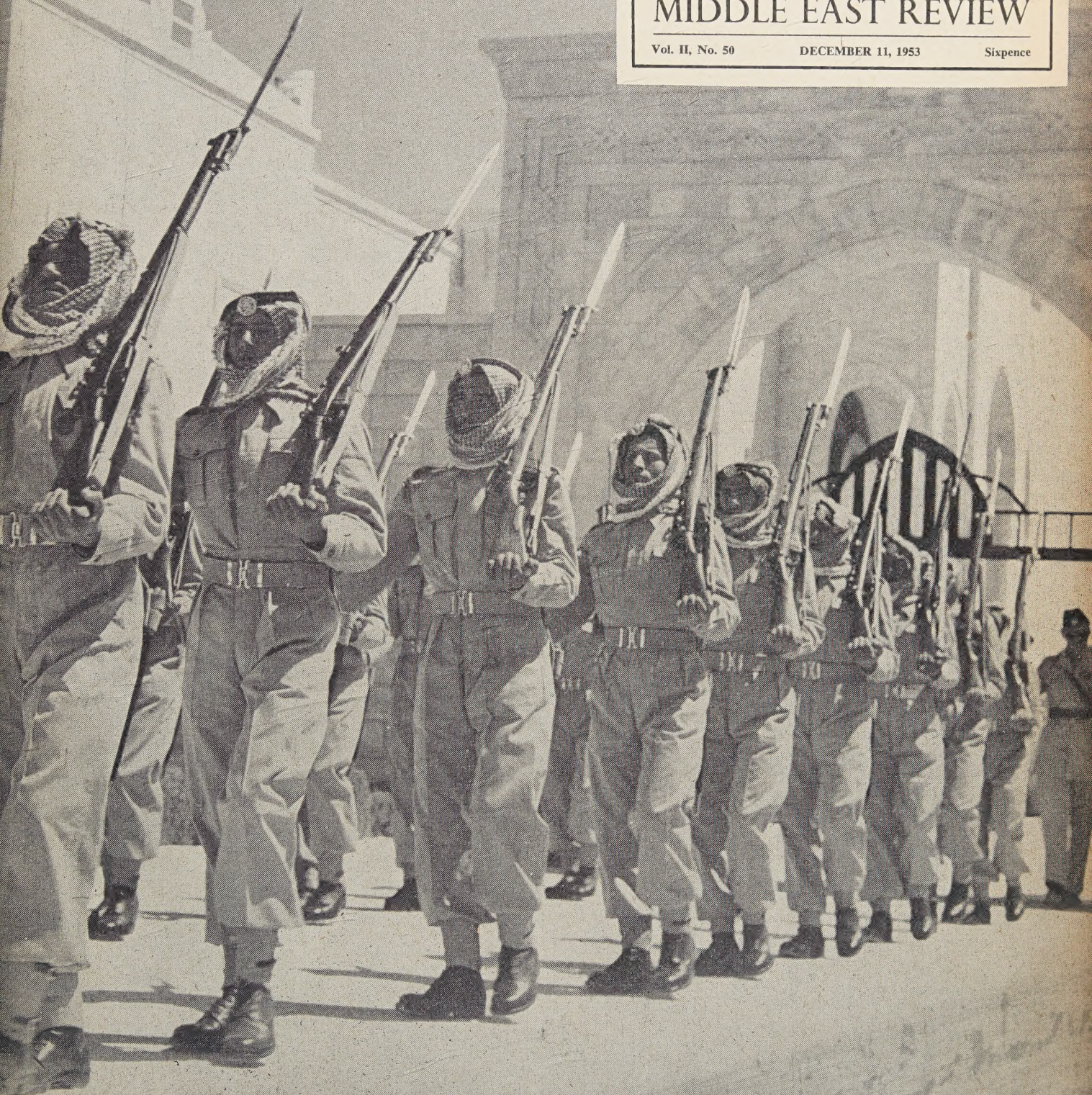
# JEWISH OBSERVER

AND  
MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

Vol. II, No. 50

DECEMBER 11, 1953

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**BEN GURION'S FAREWELL APPEAL:  
"MY CONFIDENT HOPE — A JEWISH-ARAB ALLIANCE"**



## JEWISH OBSERVER AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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- Cover Picture shows British-offered Arab Legion units parading through Amman, as Jordan Cabinet considers Israel's invocation of Article 12 of the Armistice Agreement.

—A.P. Photo.

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## ENTER PREMIER SHARETT

PREMIER BEN-GURION formally resigned on Monday; paid his farewell respects to the President; broadcast his "political testament" to the Nation; and left for his new Negev home on Wednesday.

PREMIER-DESIGNATE MOSHE SHARETT called on the President at nine on Wednesday morning and received the President's commission to form a new Coalition Government.

PARTY LEADERS had previously given President Ben-Zvi their views on the situation; Mapai favoured a speedy reconstruction of the Coalition on the widest practical basis; Mapam's terms for joining coalition included an item termed "independence of U.S. aid"; Mizrahi wanted all orthodox parties included; Progressives insisted there must be no electoral reform as proposed; General Zionists urged caution and no rush conclusions.

THE BOYCOTT of Jerusalem was broken by the Powers when the Soviet Minister Abramov presented his credentials in the Israel capital last week and was followed on Monday by the new Italian Minister, the Marquis of Campolattoro, who called on Sharett in Jerusalem.

MIDDLE EAST DEFENCE was discussed at a Conference which opened at Nicosia in Cyprus on Tuesday. Senior Air officers from Britain, the United States, Turkey, Greece and Italy participated; an Anglo-American Staff Officers' conference concluded its deliberations on Monday.

EGYPT WOULD REMAIN NEUTRAL, the U.S. Secretary of State was told by Egypt's Ambassador in Washington; Major Salem later stated Egypt's conditions for guaranteeing that there would be no Egyptian attack on Israel.

VIOLENT ARAB REACTION to Israel's invocation of Article 12 of the Armistice Agreement is reported by the *Arab News Agency*. The Jordan Government's official reply is expected this weekend.

DR. F. E. SHINNAR warned British industrialists at an Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce luncheon in London that Germany was obtaining an economic foothold in Israel. A U.N. Report



Ex-Premier and Premier Designate.

details Germany's economic expansion in the Middle East at Britain's expense.

SECRET TALKS were concluded in Basel between Israel and representatives of the Archbishop of Cologne. A final settlement was reached on the future of Catholic property in Israel belonging to the Archbishopric.

THE JERUSALEM ARAB CONGRESS "for the rescue of Palestine" was opened in the Old City; there was a noteworthy absence of any prominent political Arab personalities.

IN CAIRO, the Supreme Guide of the Moslem Brotherhood regained his position as a result of mass demonstrations by loyal Brothers against the pro-Neguib "rebels."

THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT has requested the Iraq Petroleum Company to transfer the existing Kirkuk-Haifa pipe-line to a new terminus in the Lebanon; the Company has not yet replied.

COALITION TROUBLE developed in the Tel Aviv Municipality after the Right-wing Herut joined the General Zionist majority bloc; the Progressives and Mapai thereupon withdrew from the Coalition.

IN PARIS, the British Embassy contributed 245,000 francs for the memorial to the six million Jewish dead.

IN NEW YORK, the American Zionist Council deliberated over the weekend. It decided to set up local councils in all major cities.



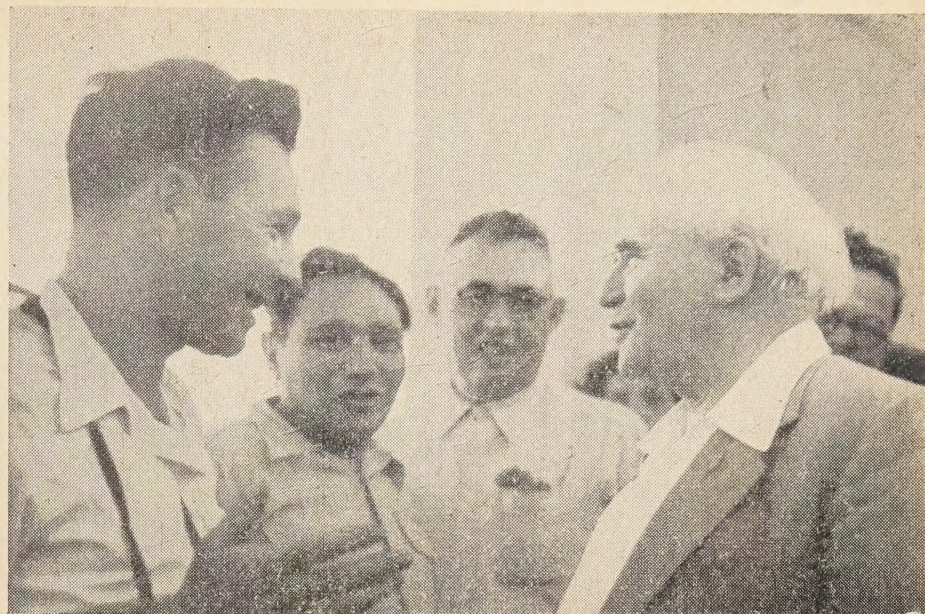
## FROM PREMIER TO PEASANT

Premier Ben-Gurion, accompanied by his ever-faithful military secretary, Col. Nehemia Argov, stepped out of his office into the crisp winter air of Jerusalem on Monday morning; he walked the hundred yards down Ibn Gabirol Street to the President's office. Within half an hour he was back in his own long room at Number One to supervise the packing of his private papers: he was now plain "Mar" Ben-Gurion. Israel's first Premier had formally resigned.

**Farewell to a Comrade:** But rarely has a formality been less formal and so deeply moving and personal. Neither Ben-Gurion nor Ben-Zvi are demonstrative where private affairs are concerned, but both were deeply affected by this official parting.

They had come a long way together since they first met 46 years ago. They were expelled together by the Turks during the first World War; together they organised and served in the Jewish Legion of the Allied armies, and, from their respective "log-cabins," they both rose to occupy the two highest posts in the land. And now, Ben-Gurion, of his own free will, had decided to return to his three-roomed log cabin at Sdeh Boker.

**"I Am Free":** He was not worried, he reassured the President. No State depends on any one man. Premiers come and go; only the Government stands in law. His parting shot was for the pack of journalists who waited for



*"I shall be free even of you," Ben-Gurion says jestingly to press-men.*

him outside the President's office. "Now," he told them, "I shall be free—even of you."

### A POLITICAL TESTAMENT

On Monday night Ben-Gurion, now only a private citizen, broadcast his political testament to the nation.

In a speech imbued with his highly personal philosophy of Jewish history, Ben-Gurion spoke of the Messianic destiny of the Israel nation; of the qualities of pioneering, decency, tolerance towards others and belief in human brotherhood which lay at the foundations of Israel; and of the difficult and hostile elements that had attended the building of the new Jewish State.

**The Decisive Front:** Ben-Gurion stressed that the "decisive front" of Israel's battle remained the domestic one—salvation must come, he said, by the hard toil and creative capacity of every individual within Israel; in the international arena there must be wisdom, courage, justice and firmness.

A dramatic observation on Israel-Arab relations was a highlight of the retiring Premier's speech. He confidently hoped, he said, that "peace will be established between ourselves and our neighbours, and a Jewish-Arab alliance forged which will devote itself to making the lands of the Middle East flourish and a benefit to all their peoples, as well as for the consolidation of world peace."

**Essence of "Ben-Gurionism":** Ben-Gurion's radio farewell touched upon all those matters that lay near to his heart. He recalled his friends and colleagues

who had died—Remez, Kaplan, Pinkas—with grief, respect and affection. He dwelt on the fundamental unity of the people of Israel despite "excessive party fragmentation." He spoke of "the noble assignment" of that pioneering that was making the wilderness blossom, and of "that gift of pioneering—chalutzit—which exists in all men if they choose to find it."

It was a characteristic and moving address that summed up what many people affectionately describe as "Ben-Gurionism."

### CATHOLIC PROPERTY

Final agreement on the return of a German Catholic monastery in Israel and the equitable disposition of other German Catholic secular properties, was reached at a conference in Basle last week.

Cardinal Joseph Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, greeted with satisfaction and gratitude the outcome of German-Israeli talks on the property of his archbishopric, cables our Special Correspondent in Cologne.

The talks had led to an agreement under which the Benedictine Abbey on Mount Zion is returned to the archbishopric. The Abbey forms the main part of its property in Israel. It was built from funds given by the Abbey of Gerlewe, in Westphalia.

After the War the Abbey was confiscated by the Palestine Government along with all other German property as enemy property. The staff were allowed to stay, but had to leave in 1948 when Israeli-Arab hostilities broke out and shells fell on Mount Zion.



*Nehemia Argov—for years a faithful shadow.*



## REACTION TO A RESOLUTION

### JORDAN'S REPLY TO ISRAEL

Earlier reports from Amman that Jordan had rejected Israel's request for talks under Article 12 of the Armistice Agreement, have given way to a new version. Jordan's impending reply, these reports say, will refer all issues to the Mixed Armistice Commission.

If there was any suggestion of "a peace agreement" between the two signatories, the *Arab News Agency* reports from Amman, then Jordan could not entertain it, as Jordan and the other Arab countries steadfastly adhere to the United Nations resolutions on the Palestine question and nothing could be reconsidered except on the basis of these.

**"Is Agreement Binding?":** With the only really relevant view—the official Jordanian Government view—still unannounced, general Arab reactions were as might have been predicted, the *Arab News Agency* report continues. "The Jewish peace feelers" were regarded as an outrage, coming as they did "from a country which had just received the gravest rebuke in the history of the United Nations for consistently, deliberately and savagely violating precisely that Agreement under which it was now proposing to act as a matter of right."

**Lebanese initiative:** The Lebanon took the lead. Already on November 27, Dr. Charles Malik, chief Lebanese U.N. delegate, had been directed to "take all possible steps to frustrate the efforts of Mr. Eban to induce Jordan to conclude peace with Israel," and the Lebanese Deputy Emil Bustani, criticised his Government for observing the Agreements on Palestine.

Premier el-Yafi replied on December 1: the Three Power Declaration guaranteeing the Middle East frontiers "was one-sided from a legal point of view" and "should not be considered as binding the Arab countries," he told Bustani. Neither the Lebanon, Syria, nor any other Arab country would conclude peace with Israel until the Palestine question was equitably solved in a manner safeguarding Arab refugee rights.

**Jordan "on guard":** Typical of Jordanian press criticism of "Israel attempts to manoeuvre Jordan into discussions," was *Al-Difa'a's* divination of "an evil intention behind the selection of Jordan, out of all the Arab states, so as to sow dissension between her and her Arab sister-states. Jordan will not fall for this," the paper said, "She is bound



*M. Abramov, new Soviet Ambassador, with President Ben-Zvi, after presenting his credentials.*

in her attitude towards the Jews by the policy of the Arab League, not by that of London or Washington."

## GERMAN REPARATIONS SHINNAR WARNS BRITISH INDUSTRIALISTS

Dr. F. E. Shinnar, the Head of the Israel Purchasing Commission in Germany, warned a large gathering of British Industrialists to make no mistake—"Germany was getting an economic foothold in Israel" as a result of her Reparations transactions.

He was addressing a luncheon arranged by the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce, at which Mr. Leslie Gamage presided, attended by the Israel Ambassador, Mr. Hillel Dan, the Chairman of the "Shilumim" Company which is responsible for all purchases in Germany, Dr. Trone and many representatives of British industry and trade.

**New Ships bought:** A market which had been almost a British "reserve" was being lost because of the lack of suitable credit facilities. He pointed out that on present trends about 30 per cent. of Israel's annual import requirements are being covered by reparations deliveries from Western Germany. Other supplying countries thus have scope to provide the remaining 70 per cent. Britain, Dr. Shinnar said, is favourably placed to get

this trade. The arrangements to cover Israel's requirements of sterling oil by German reparations completely free the proceeds of Israel's sale of citrus and other goods to Britain.

Israel had now completed the purchase of one 10,000 ton passenger ship for the Israel-U.S. run and three 7,000 ton fruit carriers for the U.K. run. Mr. I. M. Sieff, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Council, echoed Dr. Shinnar's appeal.

## U.N. REPORT: BRITAIN REPLACED BY GERMAN TRADE

The latest Bulletin of the *Economic Commission for Europe* issued in Geneva states that the expansion of Western German exports to Middle Eastern countries and the simultaneous decline of British exports, although partly the result of political factors working in favour of Western Germany and against the United Kingdom in some countries, is further evidence of the effectiveness of Western Germany's export effort.

Energetic export promotion measures such as the liberal granting of credits and tax remission on export receipts, the supply of technical experts and advisers, the sending of trade missions to most of the countries of the Middle East, and German investment in plant, transportation and construction projects have made an important contribution to German trade expansion.



# MIDDLE EAST

## BERMUDA

### EGYPT INTERVENES WITH DULLES

The Washington correspondent of *Al Ahram* reports that Dr. Ahmed Hussein, Egypt's Ambassador in the United States, met Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State, before his departure with President Eisenhower for Bermuda.

The Ambassador gave Dulles a detailed account of the position between Great Britain and Egypt.

**Churchill Suspect:** *Al Ahram* adds that "the Ambassador warned Dulles that most of the Middle East countries would maintain their neutrality towards the Cold War between the East and the West unless the Suez Canal problem and the Iranian Oil problem were settled quickly.

"Dr. Ahmed Hussein then emphasised that the Egyptian Government does not believe that Churchill really wants a settlement of the Suez problem. He also told Dulles that Britain tries to obstruct the efforts of Hoover, Junior, to settle the Iranian Oil problem.

"The Ambassador is said to have complained that the United States was not using all her influence in order to compel Britain to settle her differences with Middle East States."

## BROTHERHOOD REBELLION

### PRO-NEGUIB COUP DEFEATED

In the night of Friday, November 27, Saleh Ashmawi and his rebels occupied the Brotherhood's Headquarters and "suspended" the Board of Guidance in open defiance of the authority of the Supreme Guide, El Hodeiby's authority. (See this page last week.) They had taken over the leadership of the two-million strong organisation, so they claimed.

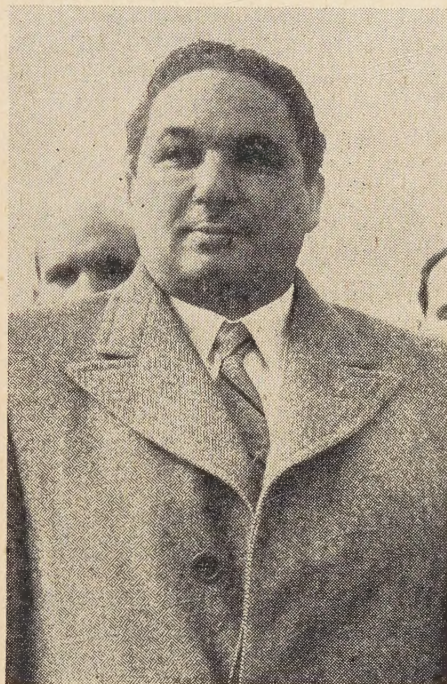
**When Dawn Came:** But, when dawn came the streets around the building standing at Helmia El Gedida became alive. At first they came in small groups, then by the hundred until at last a throng of many thousands filled every inch of the Headquarters grounds and adjoining lanes, reports *Our Special Middle East Correspondent, Robert Gee*.

This was El Hodeiby's answer to El Ashmawi's challenge. The tension mounted rapidly. The crowd was growing angrier with every hour that passed but still, like disciplined soldiers, it waited

for orders. The police alerted the Revolutionary Headquarters. They feared bloodshed.

Finally, El Ashmawi decided to leave with many of his rebels quietly and without any violence. In a statement to the press he said: "If it was not for our efforts to calm the situation it would have come to a tragedy which would have stricken the conscience of the faithful."

**Nasser Acts:** Deeply concerned with this dangerous development in the situation Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser called



*Ahmed Hussein—a warning to Dulles.*

El Ashmawi to his house. He came with Sheikh Sayid Sabiq at noon and found Sheikh Farghali, representing El Hodeiby, already there.

Cairo and Egypt looked on with astonishment at this bizarre conference. Wild rumours circulated everywhere. According to a communique which the Government saw itself forced to issue next day Colonel Nasser persuaded the two disputing parties to agree:

¶ "That Sheikh Farghali should proceed immediately with the formation of a committee to consider the case of the four expelled Brothers." (Their expulsion by the Supreme Guide served as pretext for staging the rebellion.)

¶ "That both sides should ensure

peace at the Brotherhood's meeting scheduled for Saturday afternoon." (November 28.)

**Humiliation:** The meeting was peaceful. One after the other the notables of the Moslem Brotherhood rose to restate their loyalty to the leadership represented by El Hodeiby. The gamble which Egypt's Revolutionary Leaders had watched with a significant impartiality had been lost. There was to be no split in the Brotherhood.

The great mistakes which the Regime had made in resorting to this kind of action in an attempt to split the Brotherhood was pointed out by Maitre Izzeddin Ibrahim who spoke for the Cairo area. He said:

"They thought that the Brotherhood was like a state, which can be governed on revolutionary principles. That is where they are wrong. Such principles do not apply to the Brotherhood."

**Positions Reversed:** On Sunday (November 29) the Board of Guidance suspended El Ashmawi and his fellow rebels. Thus the tables turned. The leaders of the rebellion, who only 48 hours earlier had "suspended" the Board of Guidance, had been themselves suspended. It was a victory for the "Brothers", a defeat for the regime.

## JERUSALEM ARAB CONGRESS

### WARNING AGAINST PEACE

The Congress convened by the Iraqi "Association for Rescuing Palestine" was opened in the Old City of Jerusalem. Delegations from all Arab countries attended the five-day Congress. The Moslem Brotherhood was represented by an *ad hoc* delegation since Dr. Hassan El Hodeiby was unable to attend. The Arab Higher Committee cabled the Congress according to *Al Ahram*:

"The Arab Higher Committee for Palestine greets the Congress and wishes it success in taking effective decisions to save the Mosque of Al Aksa and Palestine. The Committee warns against Jewish and imperialist attempts to settle the Palestine question through peace or its equivalent."

A delegation of Caucasians, led by a former Mufti of Caucasia, was also present. It demanded that the West should "liberate Caucasia from Soviet rule."



# GREAT BRITAIN

## ORGANISING BRITISH ZIONISM

### PARTIES IN DISAGREEMENT

In a sub-paragraph of a resolution, the annual Mizrahi Conference "ardently hoped" that a Territorial Union of Zionist parties would be set up. The idea was also given weighty support in a first leader of last week's *Jewish Chronicle*.

But neither the Mizrahi, nor the *Jewish Chronicle* were in any degree explicit as to how a union of such diverse parties as the extreme left-wing Mapam, the extreme right-wing Revisionists, and both the moderately, and extremely, orthodox wings of Mizrachists, as well as other parties, would function in a practical sense.

Would a coalition of these opposing forces pull in the same direction? Would they agree on organisation, education, policy, propaganda? Would they see eye-to-eye at a common public meeting, or be able to agree on which speakers of which parties should have priority?

**Divergent Replies:** In order to throw some light on these questions the *Jewish Observer* and *Middle East Review* this week put some key questions on Territorial Union to representatives of Mizrahi, Mapam and the Revisionists.

We encountered a marked hesitation and reluctance with some leaders, not all of whom consented to state their views. Certain Mizrahi leaders, in particular, showed a notable lack of the ardour that was expressed in the Mizrahi Conference resolution; the Mizrahi representatives who did supply information carefully stressed that they were speaking in a personal capacity. Mapam and Revisionists, however, were able to express their party views more confidently. Mapam's replies were more succinct of all and to the point.

This, then, is the picture that emerges from the answers to our six questions:—

#### **Question I: Should a Territorial Union be constituted on the basis of individual, or party, membership?**

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrahi): By party membership, on the representative basis of the Congress Key, i.e., 4 General Zionists, 3 Mizrahi, 3 Poale Zion. Alternatively, an executive of 12, on the same key, but with one representative each for Mapam and Revisionists.

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): By party membership, with representation on a proportionate basis. Must consist only of Zionist "activists". "I am against a Territorial Union representing all Jewry, or a Zionist Organisation 'watered down' with non-Zionists."

**Mapam:** It should be a joint body of Zionist parties, governed by a central Representative council. Individuals can only be represented through their respective parties.

**Revisionists:** It must be formed by all existing Zionist parties, but non-party people could join and there must be no discrimination. The Revisionist organisation must be on an equal basis with other parties. The machinery must be independent of party.

★

#### **Question II: What would the functions of the Territorial Union be?**

**Would it be responsible for political public relations? Unified public meetings?**

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrahi): It would undertake activities of common interest to all parties and would hold joint public meetings such as Independence Day celebrations, Weizmann Memorial meetings, concerted membership drives, etc. But parties would hold their own cultural and such political meetings as they feel cannot be held under the auspices of the Territorial Union.

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): It would hold common functions but not educational ones. It should not be another Zionist Federation. It should be run by a secretariat.

**Mapam:** Through its central council, the Union would be responsible for the conduct and supervision of all Zionist activities such as Aliyah, Shekel, Chalutzit, Education, Fund-raising, etc. It should be responsible for joint political public relations, the basic principle being "the fullest expression of Zionist interest common to all parties." If acceptable decisions cannot be reached, matters to be put to the vote.

It should hold unified public meetings, but separate party meetings.

It does not substitute existing parties, but must co-ordinate them.

**Revisionists:** The Union would function in the same way as the present Zionist Federation together with any additional functions it might decide on. It would be the equivalent of a Government coalition, but parties would carry

out their separate functions if they wished to. Parties with special views would express them through their own organs, which would be retained. Public meetings should be conducted on an all party basis, but different views could be expressed from the same platform.

★

#### **Question III: How would policy pronouncements be made?**

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrahi): External policy statements could be unified, if necessary by a majority vote. But the Territorial Union would not interfere with the internal policies of the organisations comprising it.

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): It could make joint policy statements, but not on education.

**Mapam:** See answer to question two.

**Revisionists:** Political pronouncements should be made by a majority vote, as in South Africa.

★

#### **Question IV: Would the Union be responsible for Education?**

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrahi): Certain aspects of adult education could be done together, such as Modern Hebrew and general informative lectures, as General Economic Conditions in Israel and The Situation of Diaspora Jewry.

The Territorial Union would not engage in such matters as the education of children, but such work could come under an independent committee working closely with the Chief Rabbi, and existing educational bodies. Committee members should be people "recognised as Zionists but with religious affiliations."

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): Against any "interference" by the Union in Education. ("I am an extremist in education. I can't compromise on my beliefs.") There could be no Jewish education without a strong religious basis.

**Mapam:** See answer to question two.

**Revisionists:** No common educational policy possible with Mizrahi and Mapam, except in the teaching of Hebrew and literature. But religious education cuts across party divisions. The education bill in Israel could be taken as a model here and, if it was wanted, Mizrahi would be entitled to separate allocations for education.

There should be no separate *hachshara* (agricultural training) camps for Mizrahi, Mapam, etc. These should be



modelled on the lines of an English village where members of different parties co-operate—a village hall for some meetings, a synagogue for others.

★

#### Question V: How should funds be administered and allocated?

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrachi): The administration of funds should remain under the present control. In most cases it would be a matter of the parties paying the Union through dues rather than the Union paying the parties. The Union would supervise national funds and such allocations as the joint Youth Committee.

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): No statement.

**Mapam:** Money should be allocated for Aliyah, Chalutzit, Education and Zionist propaganda. Allocation should be made on existing arrangements, with modifications where necessary. Allocations must be confirmed by the vote of the Council.

**Revisionists:** There must be no discrimination in the allocation of funds to the various parties in the Union. The Revisionists must be treated on an equal basis with all other parties.

★

#### Question VI: Should the Territorial Union be represented by a single newspaper, or organ of opinion?

**Mr. B. Mindel** (Mizrachi): A unified paper would be a good idea. Such a paper would have to be principally informative. Leaders are not always necessary, but if there were differences of opinion on a certain question, there would have to be a symposium of the different points of view. There need be no objection to controversial articles approved by the editorial board, as long as these were signed. But if one party strongly objected to a certain article, then it would not be right for the paper to print it.

**Mr. A. Bornstein** (Poale Mizrahi): It would be impossible to run a unified paper. Every party should have its own newspaper.

**Mapam:** We favour a unified newspaper. Adequate facilities must be given to constituent parties to express their views. Editorial policy should be determined by a body representative of all parties.

**Revisionists:** The organ of the Union would express different viewpoints, but it would voice the majority view in its leader.

(Editorial Comment on page 8)

## AUSTRIA

### JEWISH CLAIMS REJECTED

The Austrian Finance Minister, Herr Reinhard Kamitz, has rejected Jewish claims for the payment of 300 million schillings in compensation for heirless Jewish property in Austria. He estimated the value of the property at between 20 and 25 million schillings.

He said that the Jewish World Organisation, represented by a Joint Executive Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, had at first claimed 1,500 million schillings. The Jewish representatives were now asking for the lump sum of 300 million schillings, payment of which they would consider a sign of "goodwill."

**Unacceptable:** The Finance Minister, replying to a Parliamentary question, said that the Jewish demand could not be accepted. Under Austrian restitution laws, claims could still be filed up to six months after the conclusion of a state treaty. So far there was no state treaty.

**Restitution Snag:** Agreement in principle was reached on compensation problems but the talks broke down over the Jewish demands for restitution for heirless property which the Joint Committee wanted to be paid to the Jewish organisations in Austria.

The Finance Minister said that he hoped that negotiations would finally produce satisfactory results.

## MIDDLE EAST

### SURPRISING EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

With 161 primary school enrolments per 1,000 inhabitants, Lebanon in 1949 led the rest of the Middle Eastern countries, according to a recent Unesco pamphlet on basic education world facts and figures. The comparable figures for other Middle East countries were:

	Enrolment per 1,000 population
Egypt ... ..	67
Iran ... ..	21
Iraq ... ..	39
Israel ... ..	122
Syria ... ..	81

Regarding enrolments in higher educational institutes, the proportion changes significantly. Israel led in 1950 with 225 enrolments per 100 inhabitants, followed by:

	Enrolment per 1,000 population
Lebanon ... ..	199
Egypt ... ..	116
Iraq ... ..	97
Syria ... ..	70
Iran ... ..	37

The proportion of libraries of all sorts was as follows:

	No.	Total Volumes (1,000's)
Israel ... ..	56	1,350
Egypt ... ..	54	2,048
Iran ... ..	28	254
Lebanon ... ..	28	439
Syria ... ..	10	147
Iraq ... ..	9	95
Saudi Arabia ... ..	2	14

The report also reveals that according to the 1937 Census, the latest figures available, 85 per cent. of the Egyptian population over 10 was illiterate.

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# COMMENT

## AU REVOIR

Mr. Ben-Gurion retired this week from office as Israel's first Premier. The loss is Israel's and all Jewry's. His presence at the centre has provided the spark and the inspiration which were so often and so badly needed. Now, as he leaves the scene of his life's work, there is one feature of his withdrawal from public life which should not be overlooked. It constitutes in a way a reflection on the present generation of Jews and Israelis. For it is no secret that in effect, he is saying to them—to use a sentence from Thucydides, whom he admires so much—that “the apparent error of my policy lies in the infirmity of your resolution.” Perhaps not the least of his objectives in his unusual retirement is to set an example of the kind of resolution that now needs strengthening. The good wishes of all will accompany Ben-Gurion and Mrs. Ben-Gurion to their new home at *Sdeh Boker*.

## BABEL IN FURNIVAL STREET

Close on the heels of the Revisionist and Mizrahi Parties, there came a long pronouncement from Furnival Street last week, in the form of a *Jewish Chronicle* editorial article, advocating the formation of a Zionist Territorial Union in this country. This well-meaning concern for the welfare of Zionism in Britain, if perhaps in this instance belated, merited, we felt, further consideration; particularly as the *Jewish Chronicle* declared: “This proposal is so conveniently sound that to the outsider, unversed in the labyrinthine methods which govern these matters, its implementation would appear to be a matter of course.”

There had been a notable lack of precision on the part of advocates of Territorial Union which Furnival Street has not attempted to clarify. How in practice would Territorial Union work? What ideas do the various advocates of the system have in common?

Could it be that the obstacles involved were such that this is the reason why the last Congress Resolution on this matter was passed eighteen years ago—in 1935? And since then virtually no Zionist movement in any country has adopted it; certainly not the United States nor Israel.

With the object therefore of clarifying ideas on the Territorial Union proposal, we discussed the question with leading representatives of the Mizrahi, Mapam and Revisionists, the three parties who advocate this innovation. Strangely enough, as distinct from the “outsider” view which the *Chronicle* confesses it has, we found the question evoked more confusion among these “insiders” than Furnival Street optimism led us to believe. Territorial Union is not so “eminently sound”

as it appeared to the *Jewish Chronicle* Editor; in fact, judging from the views of the parties in question, it bristles with irreconcilable differences and problems.

Perhaps conditions in the Zionist world, as elsewhere, have changed since 1935; perhaps a coalition of right-wing Revisionists, General Zionists, moderate Progressives, Labour Socialists, Mapam and Mizrahi orthodoxes would be a little too difficult to operate. One is no unmindful of the fact that even the resolute Mr. Ben-Gurion has never attempted quite so comprehensive an ordeal of statesmanship. In this country where General Zionism has operated as a kind of union of Zionist parties this would create additional party rigidities, not lessen them.

The picture that emerges from our enquiry among the three Parties who support Territorial Union shows that there is scarcely one issue on which the Mizrahi, the Revisionists and Mapam have not divergent ideas and mutually exclusive demands. Even within the Parties themselves there is not always agreement. The Mizrahi, though officially a supporter of Territorial Union, is deeply divided on the issue. Its Council has been specially summoned for next week to reconsider the Mizrahi position.

Thus, the Mizrahi would not allow the Territorial Union to handle any education of the young. Mapam insists that all education must be conducted by the Union. The Revisionists have yet a third and more complicated attitude.

Even more self-contradictory are the proposals for public relations and political activity. Decisions are to be taken by a majority but the minorities are to have the opportunity publicly to express their dissent and conduct their independent and separate campaigns. Clearly, the more one examines the proposal the more Territorial Union appears as an inevitable breeding ground of party squabble, of which British Zionism is freer than most.

There is, in fact, no need for the Zionist Federation to restate its objections. The protagonists of Territorial Union have themselves exposed the fatal weakness of the idea. Like all panaceas, it does not survive intellectual scrutiny. But this does not settle the serious problem of widening the base of the Zionist Movement in this country. The mere adding together of five existing Executive Committees does not provide an answer.

There are today some 400,000 Jews in the United Kingdom who remain outside the organised Zionist parties, who cannot be won by specific ideological argument but are sensible to the appeal of Israel and its needs. The answer to this situation calls urgently for a new outlook. But in the first instance, a genuine and strong Zionist Federation attuned to the existing realities of Israel and the Diaspora offers a far greater prospect of advance in this direction than the artificial assembly of parties called a Territorial Union.



# IN THE NEWS



Sir Andrew Cohen with the exiled Kabaka of Buganda.

## SIR ANDREW COHEN

Both *The Times* and the *Sunday Observer* have described Sir Andrew Cohen as one of Britain's most progressive Colonial Governors. This was echoed to me by Fenner Brockway, M.P., who has seen the Governor at work both in Uganda and, previously, at his desk in Whitehall.

But Mr. Brockway also commented that as present Colonial policy "was not keeping abreast of the advance of the African peoples, even the best Governor could not prevent movements of discontent and such incidents as the deposition and deportation of the Kabaka of Buganda."

The position is all the more ironical as Sir Andrew was for five years, from 1947-1951, head of the African Division of the Colonial Office, and in this capacity responsible for much political advance in Africa. Colleagues say his quiet but very direct manner was a potent force in securing support for his ideas.

Sir Andrew, who was born in 1909 and was educated at Malvern and Trinity College Cambridge, has served in the Colonial office since 1933. From 1940-43 he was additional assistant to the Lieutenant-Governor of Malta. Amongst his direct ancestors was Levi Barent Cohen, the founder of one of the oldest Ashkenazi families in this country.

It is most unusual for a senior Whitehall official to become a Colonial Governor. I am waiting with interest to see how the experiment eventually turns out.

## HEBREW UNIVERSITY EXPERIMENT

I have news from the Hebrew University of experiments by Professor Michael Evenari and Dr. A. M. Mayer in the production of chlorella that will, if successful, greatly relieve Israel's food shortage and its dependence on imported feeding stuffs for cattle and poultry. It would eliminate the need to import wheat meal, barley meal and wheat bran.

Chlorella is a simple, one-celled organism that is the most efficient producer of protein in the vegetable kingdom. It lives on nothing but sunlight, carbon dioxide and a diluted solution of mineral nutrients that are readily available.

The problem is to grow the plant cheaply and in commercial quantities. Hitherto the University has not produced chlorella in quantities greater than a few ounces, and even this has only been possible through the use of costly tanks.

But now the erection of a pilot plant is proposed, with a one-cubic metre tank as the basic unit. Above this will be mounted lenses so adjusted as to reflect the sun's rays to every part of the tank.



Professor Evenari—a way to end Israel's food shortage?

## EMPLOYING THE SUN

Only extensive tests can determine whether the University is on the right track, cautions Professor Evenari. But he points out that Israel is extremely well-suited to the growth of chlorella for it wastes virtually no water, which is short in Israel, and requires little in the way of minerals, which are also short. But sunlight, one of Israel's major "natural resources," is used by chlorella most efficiently.

Professor Evanari, 48, who is head of the Section of Plant Physiology in the Department of Botany and Vice-President of the Hebrew University, came to Palestine in 1933. As a botanist his work has been widely recognised and he has been invited to research and to teach in Bulgaria, Argentine, Harvard, Yale and the California Institute of Technology. He has also made scientific tours to Iraq, Kurdistan, Jordan, Aqaba and the Sinai Peninsula.

*Hamazkir writes:*

## EARLY SHOLEM ASCH

The decision of Sholem Asch to settle in London reminds me vividly of his first arrival in this city. It took place in 1906, when he was a slim and shy young man of twenty-five. He came from Tsarist Russia, and had already established a reputation by his masterly novel *A Stedtel*, which presented a vivid portrayal of a Jewish townlet in Poland and was distinguished by those powers of observation, pathos, and humour, that characterised his later works in greater degree. I interviewed him then for the *Jewish World*, and he was so pleased with the published result that he gave me a copy of the photograph that was taken in Whitechapel for the occasion, embellished with a Yiddish dedication.

Sholem Asch was then staying at the Three Nuns Hotel in Aldgate, and by a curious coincidence Sholem Aleichem was also there at the same time. The latter had previously given a reading from his works at the South Place Institute, at which Israel Zangwill took the chair. In his bedroom at the hotel Sholem Aleichem read a new play that he had just written for Jacob P. Adler, of New York, and besides the actor, Sholem Asch and I were invited to be present to help to pass judgment. In the early twenties I met Mr. Asch in Warsaw, whither he had returned for a time from America. When I saw him last summer coming out of a bookshop



in Baker Street, he was looking old, bowed and sickly.

### NEW ZEALAND JEWRY

Among the Jewish communities of the various British Dominions that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are visiting, there is probably none that can boast of a higher record of public service than that of New Zealand. In the first place the Nathan family in Auckland has been settled there from the very day on which the British flag was planted

there, and they opened up commercial relations between New Zealand and Japan. Jews played a notable part in the early development of the city and provided its first two Mayors as well as later ones, while its first Jewish Mayor, P. A. Phillips, was afterwards Town Clerk for twenty-seven years.

The highest office held by a Jew in New Zealand was that of Prime Minister, the position occupied by Sir Julius Vogel from 1873 to 1875, and again for six months in 1876. He was later Postmaster-General and Colonial Treasurer. Among other services rendered to the country by Sir Julius were the establishment of the immigration and public works system, the inauguration of the mail service to San Francisco, and the creating of the Government Life Assurance and Public Trust Office. He also started the cable service between New Zealand and Australia, and founded the first daily paper in New Zealand, the *Otago Daily Times*, of which he was the first editor. When I was in the Dominion many years ago I had the pleasure of meeting two other distinguished Jews, Sir Arthur Myers, who held various Cabinet appointments, and Sir Michael Myers, who afterwards became Chief Justice.

### CHANGE IN HUNGARY

The arrival of a party of Jews from Hungary in Israel, and their testimony to the Zionist sentiment now existing among their fellow-Jews in that country, form a remarkable contrast to the conditions prevailing there during the early decades of the Zionist movement. Hungary was the only country in Europe, apart from Turkey, in which the Government was strongly opposed to approving Zionist activity. Even Tsarist Russia agreed to Zionist work being carried on many years before it became legally allowed in the land where Herzl was born. His successor, David Wolffsohn, made repeated approaches to the Government, but all in vain.

When I first addressed a meeting of Zionists in Budapest, in 1920, it had to take place in secret. The members were invited verbally, and the meeting was held in an out-of-the-way place far from the centre of the city. The chairman impressed upon the audience that they should not clap or cheer, so as not to attract the attention of passers-by, and when the meeting was over the people dribbled out in twos or threes at intervals so as not to arouse notice. The opposition of the Government, as I found out on later visits to Budapest, was largely due to the antagonism of the assimilationists and the ultra-orthodox,

who combined in their hostility to Zionism. Now apparently all parties are willing to go to Israel.

### BROD IN VIENNA

A friend of mine who has just returned from Vienna has told me of the remarkable enthusiasm aroused there by the recent visit of Max Brod, the well-known novelist and dramatist, who has made his home in Israel. Brod's visit was probably the first of a distinguished Jewish intellectual to the city, once famous for its Jewish culture, since the war, and the Jewish community, which has simply been starved of any intellectual nourishment for the last fourteen years, flocked in crowds to hear him wherever he spoke.

During his stay in Vienna of about ten days, Max Brod delivered five lectures and spoke at several receptions, at which, after his address, he had to answer numerous questions. His most popular lecture, arranged under the auspices of the local communal authorities, was on "Israel—Vision and Reality," which attracted an astonishingly large number of non-Jews. But an equally large crowd gathered to hear him speak about his friend Franz Kafka, whose literary executor he is. On another evening Brod gave readings from his own works, including the first chapter of his new novel, "Poor Cicero." Altogether, my friend tells me, it was a most memorable event.

### A HISTORIAN ON HISTORIES

I heard the other day that one of our historians, in lecturing to a Jewish society, stated that the great Jewish histories of the nineteenth century and after were now "all perfectly useless" because they contained no account of the extermination of European Jewry and of the establishment of the State of Israel. If he was correctly reported I can only express my astonishment at a statement that is so blatantly absurd. It may, at first sight, seem wise and knowing. In fact, it is entirely baseless and untenable.

Surely such standard histories as those of Graetz and Dubnow will always retain their value as scholarly records of Jewish history up to the time when they were written; and no scholar who undertakes to write a history of the Jewish people up to the present day, and who may undertake it in future, can afford to ignore them without detriment to his work. One might as well say that H. A. L. Fisher's *History of Europe* and Trevelyan's *History of England* are now "perfectly useless" because they were written before the late war.

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# ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

## WORLD JEWRY'S NEED TO FACE THE FACTS

### A CRITICAL COMMENTARY ON THE JERUSALEM CONFERENCE

#### Editor's Introduction :

Propaganda and Planning are inveterate enemies. Propaganda is the enemy of timely foresight, of the unpleasant facing up to realities. It forestalls preventive measures by engendering false optimism about the difficulties ahead.

These two reports prepared by experienced Israeli economists present a picture which should be studied with care; in some ways, these two reports are among the most important that have yet been published in these columns.

For there is yet another prospect that must also be considered. Foremost economists in this country—the Treasury, the *Economist* and specialists such as Colin Clark—are now convinced that we must expect an American trade recession next year. The Americans themselves are still sceptical, but they rest their case more on faith than convincing evidence.

The *Economist*, for example, has argued that the recession in the U.S. may affect no more than 5–10 per cent. of the industrial output of the U.S., but, at the same time, the paper warns that it might slump to a 20 per cent. drop. It is necessary to be prepared for both. Whitehall is busy preparing its defences.

But what of Israel? The Jerusalem Conference has budgeted for an increased income from investments and contributions from World Jewry, particularly from the Americans. But what if there is a recession—however slight or however serious, what then?

Mr. Zwiely's Report, which is printed here, shows that during the first five years of Israel's existence 54 per cent. of the foreign capital which entered Israel was, in effect, derived from contributions, private loans and private investments—the three categories usually hardest hit in a recession.

It may be that this danger will not, after all, materialise. In that case we shall all be happy. But what if it does? The planning of the Jerusalem Conference shows no sense of preparedness either on its income or expenditure side. It did demonstrate though the basic soundness and en-

couraging progress that has been made in the country. But that is barely enough. These Reports should be read and considered in all their aspects, for they go to the root of Israel's problem of existence.

## AUTUMN SURVEY \*

### REFERRED TO WORLD JEWRY

#### Foreign Currency Income :

After months of delay caused by the uncertainty shrouding this year's income from abroad, the Government has finally approved the Foreign Currency Budget for the nine months ending March 31, 1954. The Budget has been fixed at \$233 million.

This compares with a Budget of \$220 million and an actual income of \$181 million during the corresponding period in 1952/53.

This increase of \$52 million in the present year's *estimated* income over the last year's *actual* income is accounted for by German Reparations payments to the value of \$57 million which appear this year for the first time.

\* *Footnote:* This is the third of the bi-monthly surveys of Israel Economy prepared for the Jewish Observer and Middle East Review.

**Grant-in-Aid :** Income estimates for the U.S. Grant-in-Aid have been based on the assumption that Israel's share in the total Middle East allocation will not be affected by appropriations to Persia and will remain at \$67 million for the current year.

**Jewish Contributions :** Income from Jewish sources is expected to net \$67 million, of which \$32 million is expected to come from the Independence Bond Drive as compared with \$29 million last year.

**Exports Up :** The one item from which considerably more income than last year is expected is exports. Here, estimates for the budgetary period total \$45.6 million or approximately \$10 million more than last year's actual income.

#### Expenditure—Consumption Cut :

On the expenditure side the allocation for consumer goods has decreased by nearly \$2 million to \$137 million, while that for investment goods shows an increase of \$10.4 million to \$36.8 million.

**Increased Investment :** This increase in investment expenditure is divided between electric-power plant and industry, which receive almost double last year's



Railway to the Negev—orders placed in Germany.



amount—\$11.5 million as against \$6 million, and agriculture which has been allotted \$16.5 million as against \$10 million last year.

**Lower World Prices:** The national food-basket remains practically unchanged although expenditure on foodstuffs has been cut from \$43.6 million to \$41.6 million. Food consumption will be maintained due to the lower world prices of foodstuffs on the one hand and the steady increase in home production on the other.

**More Calories:** According to Government sources the daily calory consumption per person has already risen in the current year from 2,580 to 2,630.

The sum of \$37 million has been set aside for debt retirement, thus giving expression to the Government's desire to relieve the country of the growing burden of foreign obligations.

### Jerusalem Economic Conference—

#### The Facts:

The Economic Conference of World Jewish leaders which took place in Jerusalem at the end of October marked a milestone in the economic history of



Oscar Gass—brains behind the plan.

the State. A series of facts and figures were presented to the Conference by the Government outlining past achievements and specifying the future demands of the country for financial aid from World Jewry.

**Investment Plan:** A consumption and investment plan for the next seven years was outlined by the Government. This will require \$1,710 million in foreign currency—\$765 million for investment and \$735 million for consumption.

Consumption goods imports were to be reduced from the present annual level of \$145 million to \$75 million in 1960 by means of increased local production.

**World Jewry to Fill Gap:** The sum of \$210 million or \$30 million per year is to be set aside for debt retirement. To finance this programme a total income of \$835 million is expected from the following three sources:

German Reparations ...	\$420m.
Private Investments ...	\$230m.
Grants in Aid in the next two or three years ...	\$185m.

The remainder of \$875 million is to be met according to the Government's estimates, by World Jewry, which is to increase the value of its contributions to \$125 million annually—\$35 million more than the existing level of \$90 million.

The Conference also pledged to raise an additional sum of \$75 million in order to consolidate short-term foreign obligations. This amount is to be raised in the form of bank loans against future income from fund-raising campaigns.

**More Cuts Necessary:** The following are the investment totals envisaged in

the Seven Year Plan as proposed by the Israel Government:

	In million \$	In million £
Agriculture ...	170	294
Irrigation ...	32	128
Industry ...	150	270
Power ...	50	29
Mining ...	25	37
Housing ...	22	70
Road Construction ...	—	36
Communications ...	125	51
Reserve ...	191	177
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>1,092</b>

It may be observed in favour of the plan that its designers have not repeated this time the error of setting objectives that are impossible of achievement. However this merit may have its limitations.

*The forecast that even in 1960 the foreign currency deficit for consumption purposes will still amount to \$75 million annually, affords but slight hope of achieving anything approaching economic independence within a reasonable period.*

In spite of the admittedly low level of existing consumption, the conclusion cannot be escaped that further substantial cuts must inevitably be imposed if the country is ever to stand on its own feet.



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# THE JERUSALEM ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

A CRITICAL COMMENTARY By E. ZWIELY

Two recent events have served to turn the focus once again on the critical currency situation of Israel. The first was the threatened stoppage of the U.S. Government's Grant-in-Aid to Israel; the second was the Jerusalem Economic Conference.

While the shock of the threatened suspension of the Grants-in-Aid could have served as an incentive to a renewed pioneering spirit, the outcome of the Conference may raise unwarranted optimism which may check such a spirit from taking shape.

**Eshkol's Explanation:** In his address to the Conference the Finance Minister, Mr. Levy Eshkol, gave the following figures concerning the foreign capital which entered Israel during the first five years of its existence.

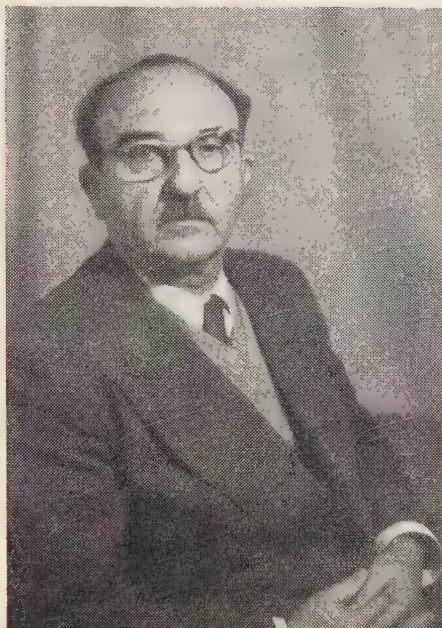
	In million	
	\$	%
From Jewish gift money	375	29
From Loans:		
Independence Bonds ...	125	
Export-Import Bank ...	135	30
Other sources (mainly short-term) ...	130	
From private investments (including immigrants) ...	200	15
Grants-in-Aid ...	155	12
Conversion of Israeli frozen savings and securities ...	120	9
From German reparations	60	5
	1,300	100

## The Forgotten 1950 Plan

**Cause of Concern:** These figures must give some cause for concern (we are not referring at the moment to the way these funds were used). It is quite natural, of course, that a new country, still in the first stages of development, should draw to a large extent on foreign capital sources, and this is particularly true of Israel which was called upon to absorb an immigration unparalleled in history at a time when its natural resources had been desolated by centuries of neglect.

But whereas in other new countries most of the foreign capital supplied was based on business considerations in the hope of getting a reasonable return in later years, most of the capital Israel received was philanthropic.

Less than 15 per cent. came as a result of purely business considerations (private capital import). If to this figure are added the Export-Import Bank loans, which may also be considered semi-com-



Eshkol—not enough investment.

mercial, the total capital imported under this head amounted to less than 25 per cent.

**Illusory Well-being:** On the face of it, the fact that such large sums have been received without the necessity for repayment might serve as a source of satisfaction. But it is this very fact that makes us on the one hand vulnerable to outside political pressure and on the other may lure us into living in a "fool's paradise". Any doubts in this connection were dispelled by the announcements made by the Finance Minister during and following the recent Jerusalem Conference.

**Forgotten 1950 Plan:** It is quite understandable, of course, that the Finance Minister found it necessary to outline plans for the future development. The persons who undertake the raising of the necessary funds quite naturally wish to know what is going to be done with them. Moreover, it would also have

been quite natural for these people to inquire what had been done with the funds already supplied. But nothing of the sort happened.

The guests were apparently so overwhelmed that they did not enquire about the fate of the Four-Year Plan which was submitted to the previous Economic Conference in September, 1950. They were presented instead with a new Seven-Year Plan.

Let us, therefore, rectify this omission and examine a few indicators to ascertain to what extent the previous plan was fulfilled.

## Promise and Fulfilment

**Shortcomings Listed:** This then is the Balance Sheet of promise and fulfilment of the 1950 Four-Year Plan. First let us take the position at the 1950 Conference:—

	Target for 1953	Position in 1950
Percentage of Imports to be covered by Exports ...	47	24
Percentage of gainfully employed in agriculture ...	22	16
Percentage of local savings in total investments ...	55	15

Now the position at the end of 1953 at this Conference was that none of these objectives, in fact, have been achieved. The percentage of exports as compared with imports was only 21.5 per cent. during the first nine months of this year; the percentage of gainfully employed in agriculture has remained approximately unchanged and the volume of local savings still lags far behind the objective.

**Any explanation:** It may be argued that the lag in the fulfilment of the plan was in part due to the fact that the amounts received from abroad were far below what was envisaged. But this, of course, is the danger that has to be guarded against also today.

(Continued on page 14)

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**Sources of Income :** After summing-up our foreign currency requirements during the coming seven years, (\$735 million for consumption, \$765 million for investment and \$210 million for repayment of debts, altogether \$1,710 million) Mr. Eshkol indicated the following estimated sources of income:

	Million \$
German Reparations (7 years)	420
Private Investments ... ..	230
Grants-in-Aid (2-3 years) ...	185

"For the remaining \$875 million, or \$125 million, per year, we shall have to rely on world Jewish sources, and mainly on the Jews in the United States," he added. Upon investigation, however, none of these sources is likely to prove reliable for the amounts mentioned.

We shall, however, refrain from discussing here the possible complications that may arise in connection with the Grant-in-Aid and the German Reparations, and shall confine ourselves to an analysis of the other sources.

**Over-Optimistic Estimates :** As has already been indicated, our "Achilles heel" is the small amount of private foreign investment. According to liberal estimates the total of foreign private

investments during the first five years of Statehood amounted to about \$130 million. It is over-optimistic, therefore, to expect that in the coming seven years these will reach the \$230 million mark without a drastic change in the whole atmosphere of investments.

This opinion gains more weight in view of the marked slowing down in the rate of incoming investments during the current year.

**That Extra \$35m. :** In connection with the hope of receiving \$125 million yearly from world Jewry, it will not be idle to mention that the sum received last year from this source was \$90 million.

On what grounds, then, is a rise of \$35 million per annum to be expected, especially in view of the growing tendency among Jewish communities in the United States to give priority to their own communal requirements. The protagonists of this trend (mostly from the ranks of the Federation of Jewish Communities Funds in the U.S.) were absent from the Jerusalem Conference.

#### What, Then, Is To Be Done?—

*First* of all the public must be informed of the gravity of the situation with a view to encouraging increased

effort and still further cuts in the already low level of consumption. Such a development would diminish the trade deficit and the need for foreign capital.

*Secondly*, priority must be given to enterprises working for export or producing essential goods at present imported from abroad.

*Thirdly*, a complete change is necessary in the foreign investment atmosphere — and this by diminishing bureaucracy to a minimum, appropriate exchange rate policy, the issue of clear directives and their enforcement by extensive regional and all-embracing planning and by selling abroad securities of established enterprises.

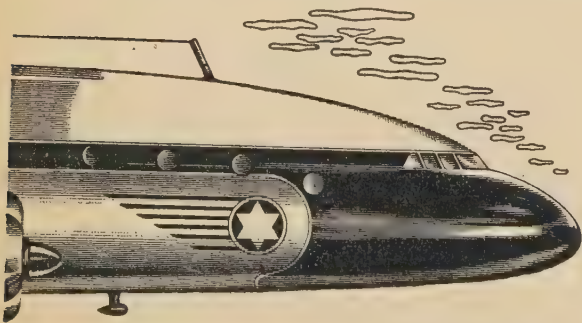
*Fourth*, effort must be made to bring back the large capital funds which fled the country during the inflationary period. The present shortage of funds, especially revolving capital, provides grounds for hoping that by granting a period of grace, a large sum will, in fact, be repatriated.

*And last*, but not least, is the strengthening of the direct sentimental links between Israel and World Jewry. That is now a major task for the leaders of the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. and of the Joint Palestine Appeal in the United Kingdom.

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# K N E S S E T

## MACCABEAN DEBATE ARANNE'S BRILLIANT SPEECH

*From our Special Correspondent*

The week-long debate on Foreign Affairs turned out, to the surprise of some, comparatively unsensational in character; for this, two explanations have been offered. The first is that the Government's refusal to agree to a debate for so long made the discussion purposeless; the second that the Knesset showed a remarkable degree of responsibility and unity and members were prepared to exercise unusual restraint in their utterances.

I prefer the second version as being nearer the truth, but I think the Government should consider whether the denial to the Parliament of the right to debate the matter was really necessary. Their fear that irresponsible utterances would result which would be harmful to our struggle at the United Nations now appears groundless.

**An Outstanding Speech:** Little need be said of the content of Mr. Sharett's speech for it has been given adequate publicity. His delivery was dry and factual, and perhaps under the circumstances this was the best tone to adopt. In the debate itself the members concentrated on a few main points. There seemed to be universal criticism of the Government's propaganda machine in the United States, and there was almost unanimous agreement that the Prime Minister's statement after Quibya was unnecessarily delayed and therefore did not make the required impact on public opinion.

The debate was notable first of all for one outstanding speech. Zalman Aranne is one of the great orators of the Knesset, and enjoys a high reputation. As a result of a decision of the Mapai party, it is at present clear that when the new coalition is formed he is to be a Minister, and in a sense this speech was his first appearance in this new capacity. His clear diction, his attractive style, his flashes of humour and his capacity for coining epigrams were demonstrated to the full. The speech, too, was well-built, logical, and made a number of striking points with force. In fact, all the points that were possible to make in this debate were dealt with by Aranne, and so I make no apology for devoting most of this report to what he said and how he said it.

**Israel and the West:** Mr. Aranne began

by debunking loose talk about Israel breaking her association with the Western countries and joining in some imaginary Asian revolutionary upsurge. He then trounced those who were using extravagant language in relation to General Bennike and paid a beautiful tribute to the people from whom he comes, and to Denmark's noble stand at the time when Jews were being elsewhere destroyed in Europe.

He also had something to say about Israel's propaganda in the United States, and reproached Britain for her unfriendly attitude at the U.N.

But perhaps the best moment in Mr. Aranne's speech was when he dealt with Quibya. His description of the circumstances which had provoked this incident could provide the basis of an explanatory pamphlet to other countries, but with that regard for morality which is characteristic of the man, he pleaded that Quibya should be seen for what it was, a regrettable outcome of an unfortunate policy on the part of the great Powers of the world.

**Spiritual House-Cleaning:** Mr. Argov, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, took a more definite line, and his case against the attitude of the great Powers was couched in stronger language, whilst Mr. Zisman of the General Zionist Party, as could be expected from a soldier, was a slightly more bellicose. The three religious speakers, Rabbi Levin, Rabbi Nurock, and Mr. Raphael called for prayers for divine guidance. Rabbi Levin said that if we wanted to get the sympathy of the world, we should have to clean up our house from the spiritual point of view, and one of his proposals was the abolition of pig-breeding in Israel.

Mr. Sharett's only critic, whose argument really called for a reply was Mr. Landau of Herut,

who demanded action in violent terms. Mr. Sharett had, however virtually replied to him in an interjection, when he asked Mr. Landau what precisely he meant, and challenged him to say whether he was advocating specific action of a military nature.

★

The Knesset took a day's leave for the Chanukah holiday, and when they dispersed in the gathering dusk the first candle-light was burning on the *menorah* on the roof of the Knesset, and below, in blue neon lights, were illuminated the Hebrew words: "As in those days, so today."

Since like the ancient Maccabeans we are faced with the constant task of defending our State against the enemies who surround us, it is not inappropriate that the members of the Knesset who debated the question of the security of their country should have caught a last glimpse of this inscription before they left on their journeys to their homes scattered all over Israel, to celebrate the festival of liberation and to renew contact with their constituents.

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# BOOKS

## AESTHETIC ANTIQUITIES

By EMANUEL LITVINOFF

PLEASURE OF RUINS, by *Rose Macaulay*  
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 25s.; 455 pp.  
with Index).

The world is not short of ruins. It is a graveyard of man's endeavour, ambition and art as expressed in buildings from the brute dawn of early man to his destructive modern descendant. It is curious, then, that ruins which induce a melancholy pleasure, as Miss Macaulay properly points out in her title, are seldom seen as the deeply tragical symbol they are.

There I go philosophising, which seems to be the inevitable effect of ruins on a reflective temperament, and for those who are similarly susceptible this is surely a useful and entertaining book. Miss Macaulay has, it seems to me, collected everything that was said or written about the crumbling splendours of the past, from the Biblical prophets, who saw them as a witness to moral retribution, to such as Robert Burns for whom "ruins are yet beauteous in decay." This miscellany is bathed in the mellow ambi-

ence of the author's rich, urbane and witty imagination to make what the uncharitable might call an overlong essay, but which for me is a golden, if macabre, feast.

For all its wealth of quotation and wise reflection, the finest thing in "Pleasure of Ruins" is the majestic poetry of Isaiah's prophecy against Edom:

"... the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the lines of confusion, and the stones of emptiness. . . ."

So, in the words of the prophet, one catches an echo of the desolate wind of eternity that blows through all our ruins and turns our pleasures to silence. Until that metamorphosis, it is pleasant to listen to Miss Macaulay.

## PARIS BOHEMIAN

DAY OF WRATH, by *Maurice Sachs*  
(Arthur Barker, 16s.).

Maurice Sachs was a French Jew who was taken to Germany during the war and was murdered by an S.S. man in April, 1945, when the prison in which he was held was being evacuated.

A homosexual, actor, drug-addict and incurable exhibitionist, he was possessed of an exceptional literary talent and "Day of Wrath," published in France under the title "Le Sabbat," is a fascinating account of Parisian Bohemia as well as a journal of candid—if that is the word for it—confession.

Sachs was a malicious caricaturist. His portrait of Cocteau as a master of pastiche and a writer who imitated the mannerisms of his peers is merciless. Cocteau in a black silk dressing gown, exuding a ripe decadence, is a collector's piece, but there are also memorable portraits of Gide, Maritain, Max Jacob and others.

I cannot see how this book can fail to stimulate curiosity in Maurice Sachs' other writings, of which several books and a play exist. In any case, the publisher must be congratulated on a discovery that is remarkable and fascinating.

## HEBREW LITERATURE

### A PESSIMISTIC VIEW

A "non-expert" view of modern Hebrew literature, strongly tinged with pessimism was offered by Dr. Z. Werblowsky, a Leeds University Lecturer on Semitics, in the Zionist Federation series "Views on Jewish Topics."

Dr. Werblowsky, who criticised the "secularism" of modern Hebrew writers, spoke of the paradoxical desire of the first modern Hebrew writers to return to Jewish life without recognising that it was saturated with religion. The result, he said, was "a kind of mysticism".

**A "Guilt" of Complexes:** He described the early settlers on Zionist collectives in Palestine as "cranks, Tolstoyan idealists," who were in adolescent rebellion against "the father-world"—victims of an Oedipus complex.

The present generation of young Israelis—the Sabras—who had proved their mettle in war, had therefore a highly abnormal background and grew up completely alienated from their parents' world—they suffered, said Dr. Werblowsky, from "an inferiority complex," which explained their "bragging aggressiveness."

This generation had been quickened to literary activity during the war but, said Dr. Werblowsky, they lacked culture, spiritual substance, "the psychological and intellectual organs" to understand their dilemma. Their writing reflected "insecurity, xenophobia, inferiority complexes."

**Young Hebrews:** The Sabras' attitude had found its extreme formulation in the Young Hebrews, who represented a split in Jewish solidarity. Young Hebrews were xenophobic and resented those who gave money to support the Jewish State, but together with the extreme left they represented the best available brains and literary talent in Israel, and produced the best periodicals. Although their numbers were small, they gave expression to a state of mind common to many young Israelis today.

Dr. Werblowsky would not predict where the future of Hebrew literature lay. In reply to a question, he indicated that it might not lie in Israel, although he was not speaking "geographically, or even historically, but culturally," he explained.

E.L.

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# JEWISH AFFAIRS

## ZIONIST FEDERATION RUMANIAN JEWISH LEADERS

A meeting of the Honorary Officers of the Zionist Federation strongly protested against the recent trial of Jewish leaders in Rumania. The meeting recalled that Mr. Jean Littman—formerly Chairman of the World Jewish Congress in Rumania—and Mrs. Susanne Benevisti—Wizo leader—who were brought to court after nearly two years of detention, were found guilty of Zionist activity and jailed for 15 years and 10 years respectively. Warm tribute was paid to the courage and dignity displayed by the two Zionist leaders during the trial.

A protest against the continued detention of over 150 Jewish leaders in Rumania without any special charges being proffered against them, was also voiced.

## MANCHESTER SYMPOSIUM

There is, and must not be any, differentiation between the terms Israeli and Jew. One remains a Jew whether one was born in England, in Russia, the Yemen, America or Israel, was the undivided opinion of Rabbi Dr. L. Jacobs, Mr. A. Rubinstein, and Mr. A. Englesberg, at a symposium, "Israeli or Jew," organised by the Manchester Zionist Association.

But the unity of Jewry, in the Diaspora and in Israel, could only survive if there was a positive approach to the co-ordination of Jewish life and education, said Mr. A. Englesberg, who criticised the religious authorities in this country for failing in the educational sphere.

**Chief Rabbi's Statement Criticised:** Mr. Bert Adler, President of the Manchester Zionist Central Council, criticised a recent statement by the Chief Rabbi attacking Zionist Federation participation in education by declaring that as long as Modern Hebrew was not part of the curriculum of Hebrew education in this country and the Sephardi pronunciation was not introduced into Synagogue Services, the link in the chain of unity would not be complete.

Only with the co-operation of the religious authorities would Zionists be able to play their full part in the education of their children.

Mr. Englesberg attacked that category of Jews, predominant in the Anglo-Jewish community, who were neither religious nor nationalist, but who drifted from one extreme to the other.

Rabbi Dr. Jacobs, speaking on the religious aspect, said that Jewish nationalism without religion would be meaningless. "Jewish nationalism with religion constituted a great and glorious thing."

**Assimilation and Loyalties:** Mr. Rubinstein said that the Jews were a tribe and a nation kept together by their religion; they assimilated only on the secular side by adopting the customs, clothing and the culture of the people among whom they lived.

Referring to recent statements by A.J.A. spokesmen, Mr. Rubinstein said: "When a crisis comes about and brings loyalties into conflict with each other, then each man has to give his individual answer. The problem is an extra-legal one with no solution."

Mr. Dan Sandler, Chairman of the Manchester Zionist Association, presided.

## "WHY ARE WE STILL ZIONISTS?"

A symposium, "Why are we still Zionists?", was held at the West London Zionist Society at which Mr. Alic Nathan pointed out that Zionists were enabled to obtain vital information on Israel and could therefore help to correct mistaken reports circulating about the State. There was no question of dual loyalty, he said; one was of course loyal to the country of residence, but there was also for Jews an obligation—financial and political—towards Israel.

Mr. Harry Myer said that Jews in Israel and Jews in the Diaspora formed one people, who had collectively brought about the establishment of the State. World Jewry still had a responsibility to Israel.

Mr. C. C. Aronsfeld spoke from a personal point of view, describing his early education and orthodox environment. The advent of Hitler, he said, had made him see Jewry and world Jewish relationship in an entirely new light, converting him wholly to the cause of Zionism and Israel.

The Rev. S. Venitt was in the chair.

## PRESIDENT BEN-ZVI

A letter from President Ben-Zvi, of Israel, expressing appreciation of "the courageous and outspoken attitude of British Jews in support of the Yishuv during its hardest days," was given by the President to Dr. I. S. Fox, leader of the recent Zionist Federation delegation to Israel, in reply to a letter from Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., President of the Zionist Federation.

The letter also expressed President Ben-Zvi's regret that Mr. Janner was unable to lead the delegation in person.

**East London Zionist Association—Beth Zion:** A learned address on the 19th century rabbi, Israel Salanter, was given by Rabbi Dr. S. M. Lehrman. The Rev. E. F. Rosenberg was guest singer at the meeting.

Mr. M. Cooper, chairman of the association, said that the best hope for Middle East peace lay in a strong Israel, and this in turn was largely dependent on financial support from Diaspora Jewry. Mr. B. Zane presided.

**West Central Z.S.:** An original method of fund-raising enabled the society two years ago to contribute £1,000 to the Anti-T.B. League of Israel, for naming a ward in the Haifa Sanatorium in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. H. Vetchinsky, founder of the society.

By means of a savings and loan club launched in 1934, known as the August Club, members were encouraged to save and where required were assisted with small loans, upon which a charge was made, partly returnable to the borrower by way of a dividend declared at the end of the financial year. The difference between the interest charged and the

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dividend remained with the society for helping Zionist funds.

£20 profit at the end of the first year had increased to over £800 by the outbreak of the Second World War, when operations had to be suspended.

The August Club recommenced some 18 months ago and is again attracting a large membership who, at their weekly attendances for purposes of payment, are at the same time brought in regular contact with Zionist affairs.

**St. John's Wood and Maida Vale Z.S.:** A special function to publicise the work of Youth Aliyah recently took place under the chairmanship of Dr. J. Jackson. Mr. Otto Zarek, press officer of the British Youth Aliyah Committee, outlined the impressive development of the movement since its small beginnings in February, 1934.

## PRESS

### "JEWISH VANGUARD" CELEBRATION

Tributes were paid to the "Jewish Vanguard" and its editor at a reception to mark the fifth anniversary of the newspaper.

After complimenting the "Jewish Vanguard" on the way it had explained and interpreted "anti-Semitism behind the Iron Curtain," the sale of arms by Britain to the Arabs, and the Quibya attack, Mr. Anthony Greenwood, M.P., attacked the Security Council's resolution on Quibya for being "as partisan as any he had seen."

On the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations, he said that Britain should insist on guarantees for Israel's territorial integrity and on free passage through the Suez Canal. Britain, as one of the three Powers who had guaranteed Israel's frontiers, had an obligation to find a basis of agreement in the Middle East, but as long as the Arab League continued to exist Israel would never be really secure.

**Attack on the Press:** Mr. Ian Mikardo, M.P., said the "Jewish Vanguard" could be placed side by side with any daily, weekly or monthly journal in Britain and would not suffer by comparison. The "Jewish Chronicle" looked at Israel through British eyes, he said, and the "Jewish Observer and Middle East Review" was almost politically illiterate

because it was politically inarticulate.

Dr. S. Levenberg, referring to the Security Council's Quibya resolution, said that there was a danger that the Arab States would be encouraged by it to be more intransigent. He denied that Israel had not carried out decisions of the United Nations.

**"Organ of Labour Party":** The "Jewish Vanguard", he pointed out, was an organ of the Labour Party and had played its part in getting votes for the Labour Party. He was very proud of the paper which expressed Labour-Zionist yearnings and aspirations.

Mr. Gershon Avner, Counsellor of the Israel Embassy, said that there was a tremendous job of public relations to be done and that the "Jewish Vanguard" was helping to do it.

Dr. S. A. Miller, Poale Zion chairman, said the "Jewish Vanguard" was an important propaganda weapon; Mr. I. Jezierski spoke of the paper's early difficulties and paid tribute to those who

## CALENDAR

(Times given are G.M.T.)

Sabbath begins	Friday, 11 December, 3.30 p.m.
Readings from Pentateuch	Genesis xlv. 18—xlvii. 27
Readings from Prophets	Ezekiel xxxvii. 15—28
Sabbath ends	Saturday, 12 December, 4.39 p.m.
Fast of Tebet	Wednesday, 16 December, 4.39 p.m.

had edited it; Mr. S. Goldberg, a member of the editorial board, wondered how much of the evening's proceedings would be reported in the Jewish press.

Mr. H. Pinner, the editor, outlined a plan designed to double the paper's circulation, increase its size and transform it into a weekly.

## DR. SENATOR MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

Thirty days after his death, in accordance with tradition, a group of friends of the late Dr. W. Senator gathered on Wednesday of last week to pay a tribute to his memory at the offices of the Friends of the Hebrew University.

The five speakers were Professor Norman Bentwich, the Israel Ambassador, Mr. Elath, Sir John Shaw, Dr. Levenberg and Sir Leon Simon.

Dr. Senator belonged to that generation of German Jews, said Professor Bentwich, who had fought in the German Army in World War I and who afterwards felt the need to dedicate themselves to the rehabilitation of East European Jewry. Dr. Senator had thus worked for the "Joint," in whose services he had travelled to Siberia and the East.

The Ben-Shemen village in Palestine was also one of his interests, and as a non-Zionist member of the Jewish Agency in the 1930's he had carried his ethical concern into the determination to stand against all acts of violence. He had hoped that the Hebrew University would represent the intellectual and spiritual aspect of the Hebrew renaissance.

**Independent and Moderate:** Dr. Senator was a man of independent views, of the type needed in a free society, said Mr. Elath, speaking as a former Jewish Agency colleague. His interest in art, music, and literature was an unlimited one.

Sir John Shaw, former Secretary to the Mandatory Government, spoke of his "old friend, Dr. Senator," as one who had tried through his high qualities of personality to achieve a solution of the Palestine problem.

The same theme was struck by Dr. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative in London, who said that though Dr. Senator would forever be remembered for his work on behalf of the University, his name would also live as one of the foremost protagonists of Jewish-Arab co-operation in the Middle East. He had come from an assimilated German-Jewish family and only reached the Jewish National cause after much heart-searching. The spiritual message of Ahad-Ha'am was his inspiration.

**Great Administrator:** It would be difficult to imagine the University without Dr. Senator, said Sir Leon Simon. He knew of no case where any single man had done so much in such a large organisation; this great and over-riding passion for detail made him into far more than the nominal Administrator.

The gathering ended with Professor Bentwich's reading of *Kaddish*.

## TECHNION SURVEY OF STUDENTS

A survey recently conducted among the student body of the Technion reveals that only one-third of the 1,200 young men and women enrolled in the Institute are native born Israelis.

An additional one-third are comparatively recent arrivals to Israel. The remainder, for the most part, came to Israel as infants or young children. Next to the *sabras*, the largest number of foreign-born students comes from Poland, followed closely by Rumania. Other countries of origin, in the numerical order of their representation among the students are Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Austria and Hungary.

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Many other of Israel's future engineers and technologists come from Greece, France, Belgium, Latvia, Russia and Holland. Only 6 per cent. of the students are from Eastern countries such as Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, etc., though they rank with the best students in the Institute. There are also six Arab students who come from Haifa, Jaffa and Nazareth within Israel.

**AMBULANCES FOR ISRAEL**

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Steinberg were Host and Hostess at a Reception in aid of the "Ambulances for Israel Ball," to be held at the Dorchester Hotel next January, under the patronage of the Israel Ambassador.

The Chairman, Dr. Arthur Levin, introduced Dr. Paul Strickland who spoke of the many medium sized towns in Israel that did not even have a single ambulance. He said that at least one ambulance should be available for each community of 10,000 people. On present calculations it would need many years before there would be a comparable service to that available in Great Britain.

Dr. Strickland said he had seen how Israel's doctors and nurses coped courageously with a situation which we had had to face only in wartime or in time of natural disaster.

**Classified Advertisements**

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**PUBLICATIONS**

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, 12th December**  
**FINSBURY PARK Z.S.** Simon Diamond Hall, Finsbury Park Synagogue, Princess Crescent, N.4. M'lave Malka. Guest Speaker: Dr. I. S. Fox. Guest Chazan: Rev. S. Singer. In the chair: Rev. A. S. Chaitowicz, B.A. 8 p.m.

**Sunday, 13th December**  
**NORTH FINCHLEY & DISTRICT Z.S.** Synagogue Hall, Woodside Park Road, N.12. Israel Films. Guest Speaker: Otto Zarek, Esq., on: "Twenty Years Youth Aliyah." In the chair: Rev. C. I. Shine, B.A. 7.30 p.m.

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE (N.W.)** Arts Theatre Club, Great Newport Street, Leicester Square, W.C.2. Zvi Vardy, Esq., LL.B., on: "Zionist Problems of Today." Visitors welcome. 7.45 p.m.

**Tuesday, 15th December**  
**HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB Z.S.** 39 Norrice Lea, N.2 (by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. L. Rabinowicz). E. Margalit, Esq., on: "Recent Economic Legislation of the Knesset." In the chair: A. Kramer, Esq., LL.B. 8 p.m.  
**THEODOR HERZL & HAMPSTEAD Z.S.** Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. Brains Trust with: Mrs. Ella Frankel, Geoffrey Paul, Esq., Rev. C. I. Shine, B.A., and P. Williams, Esq., B.Sc. Question Master: Dr. F. E. Falk. 8 p.m.

**Thursday, 17th December**  
**HENDON Z.S.** Sol Cohen Memorial Hall, Raleigh Close, N.W.4. Concert of Israel's Music. Artistes: Shoshana Burgman, Van Dyle, Margolita, Henry Noble. At the piano: Handel Rosen. Admission free (members and friends only). 8.15 p.m.  
**ST. JOHN'S WOOD & MAIDA VALE Z.S.** 33/35 Abbey Road, N.W.8. Michael Horner, Esq. and Lucien A. Isaacs, Esq. (who recently visited Israel) on: "A Tourist's Impression of Israel." In the chair: Dr. J. Jackson. 8.15 p.m.  
**WOOLWICH & DISTRICT Z.S.** Synagogue Hall, Anglesea Road, S.E.18. J. H. Barnett, Esq., on: "Jewry in a World of Tension." Also records of Jewish music. In the chair: I. Ragol-Levy, Esq. 8 p.m.



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# JPA-JNF NEWS

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## 'CHANGING THE GUARD'

One of the proudest honours attainable by Israel's school-children is the right to be guardians for a year of the Flag of Jerusalem, "symbol of Israel and of the redemption of the Jewish people."

The flag is entrusted to the school which has done most to further the ideals of the Jewish National Fund during the course of the year.

The change of guardianship takes place annually at a ceremony sponsored by the Teachers' Council of the J.N.F., in the courtyard of the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem.

The school honoured this year was the Jordan Valley School of Degania "A," whose children come from farming settlements on the western shores of Lake Kinneret. Children representing this school were handed the flag by last year's holders, from the new immigrants' school at Kastina in the Jerusalem Corridor. They were welcomed by Dr. B. Ben Yahuda, Chairman of the J.N.F. Teachers' Council and by Mrs. Rivka Gruber, whose two sons fell in the War of Independence and who has since devoted herself to the welfare of new immigrants, and in particular to the children of Kastina.

The climax was the marching of the children of Kastina between double ranks of Jerusalem school-children standing at attention with their school banners, and handing over the flag.



Flag Ceremony in Jerusalem.

## BIRMINGHAM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Mr. Michael Sacher, honorary treasurer of the J.N.F., was present at the recent annual general meeting of the Birmingham J.N.F. Commission. Mrs. Valerie Gould presided.

The chairman reported a year of steady progress, and this was supported by the figures quoted by the Commission's treasurer and the Box chairmen. Mr. J. Goldstein announced that Birmingham had so far subscribed £1,700 towards the Coronation Forest.

Two important functions during the year had been the Blue and White Ball and a large-scale boxing tournament; and Mr. M. Gorfunkle, chairman of the J.N.F. Sportsmen's Club, expressed gratitude at the participation in their work of Mr. Joseph Leek as joint-chairman.

In a review of traditional activities, Mr. Michael Sacher deplored the fact

that there was an insufficient number of boxes throughout the country and not more than 390 Golden Book inscriptions had been made during the year. An account was then given by Mr. Max Weiner of the new task assumed by the J.N.F. in this country of reclaiming vital sections of frontier land, in particular those regions in which English kibbutzim were situated.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Valerie Gould, chairman; Rev. Chaim Pearl, M.A., vice-chairman; Messrs. C. Cornberg, hon. treasurer; M. Gorfunkle, hon. secretary; P. Fyne, functions chairman; S. Chesler, box chairman; J. Goldstein, tree officer. Messrs. M. Gorfunkle and J. Leek were elected to the committee of the Sportsmen's Club, with Mr. I. Baum and Rev. W. Lewi executive members.

## CHARITIES AID COMPLETE BRIDGE ASSIGNMENT

This enthusiastic junior group, following in the footsteps of those who are now among the leaders of Jewish National Fund activity in this country, has, during the past two years, been working towards the construction of a bridge for the Western Drainage Canal now being excavated in the Huleh drainage area.

As a climax to their efforts, the Charities Aid Committee held their annual dinner and ball last Sunday at the Café de Paris. On this occasion, and due to a spirited auction conducted by Mr. Rosser Chinn, they added another £1,200 to their totals and thus completed the assignment.

All those who have worked for this constructive example of Zionist devotion deserve our praise. The committee is led by Mr. M. Marks as chairman, Mr. A. Ladsky as vice-chairman, Miss B. Davis as hon. secretary, Mr. G. Zimmerman as

hon. treasurer, Mr. B. Burstein as functions officer and Miss S. Winkleman as brochure officer. Joint hon. presidents of the Charities Aid Committee are, of course, Messrs. R. Chinn and H. Burstein.

## KEREN KAYEMETH BUDGET FOR COMING YEAR IS £20,000,000

The Keren Kayemeth budget for the coming year is £20,000,000, it is announced by Dr. Abraham Granott. Three million pounds have been allotted for development projects, mainly the planting of five million trees and continuation of the Huleh drainage work.

Over £4,500,000 have been set aside for the purchase of land, including payment to those non-Jewish residents of Israel who wish to sell their property. Dr. Granott added that all the Keren Kayemeth's debts would be repaid in foreign currency.



# JPA-JNF NEWS

## COMBINED SOUTH-EAST-WEST JPA COMMITTEES

### PRE-CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE AT ZIONIST H.Q.

During their traditional review of the annual campaign for J.P.A. and the laying of plans for the coming year's efforts, the Combined South-East-West J.P.A. committees on Monday night heard a report in the Weizmann room at 77 Great Russell Street on the past campaign from Alderman H. A. Leon, J.P., member of the Administrative Committee, who was in the chair, and an account of his recent visit to Israel by Mr. Harry Shine, executive director of the Appeal.

Salient features of the past year's national campaign, as given by Alderman Leon, showed that a gross sum of approximately £1,200,000 had been raised from some 24,000 contributors. He pointed out that there had been a considerable increase in the amounts subscribed by various Trade committees, though this had been counterbalanced by a slight falling-off in the districts and provinces.

**Recruits Wanted:** He believed that the great necessity for their particular group of suburban committees was to recruit new and younger members to revitalise their activities and help make the new campaign to be launched in February more successful.

The results of their own committees had registered a considerable drop, declared Mr. A. P. Blitz, whom the chairman introduced as the new organiser responsible for this field in succession to Mr. Garson, now working in Leeds.

During 1952, nearly £25,000 had been raised; in 1953 the corresponding figure was under £20,000. Furthermore, the number of donors had decreased and the average donation this year, £6 19s. 0d., was also slightly less than previously.

A general discussion then took place to develop ways and means of improving results and the following participated: Messrs. I. Ragol-Levy, Woolwich; M. Cohen, Bethnal Green; L. Wolf, Ealing; M. Ostrow, P. Rose, B. Cowan, Brixton; J. Sedler, G. Hockley, Richmond; O. Kosky, Upton Park; J. Rose, Ilford; J. Cohen, Sutton; S. Binderman and Rev. G. Schneider, Streatham.

Mr. Shine, who had arrived back in this country a few days previously, emphasised that Israel now presented an almost universally optimistic picture. There was a serious problem of unemployment and in the alleviation of this,

money for the development of agriculture and industry must come from the Jewish communities of the Diaspora. He gave high praise to the Israel Army which he considered as effective, man for man, as any in the world.

He had been in the country during the orange picking season and he revealed that the citrus prospects were brighter than at any time since the war.

**Redressing the balance:** Two examples indicating how long-term planning was gradually redressing the adverse trade balance the executive director gave from industry and agriculture. The first was the new large factory for the production of plywood for export and the second, the large underground water pumping plant built by the Mekoroth Company supplying a large number of Negev settlements.

He rounded off with a description of Pardess Hannah, a village numbering some 3,400 elderly men and women. It was a haven of peace where the old could be as useful and as forward-looking as the young, he said. His visit there would be an undying memory.

Early in the proceedings the Rev. G. Schneider of Streatham kindled the Chanukah lights, while the meeting closed with expressions of thanks to Alderman Leon and Mr. Shine.



Picture taken at the dedication of the Leah Prevezer Hall in Tel Aviv, reported in a recent issue. Mr. Harry Shine, executive director of the J.P.A., is speaking. Also to be seen are Chief Rabbi Unterman of Tel Aviv, Mr. Zvi Herman of the Jewish Agency Executive, Sir Francis Evans (British Ambassador), Mrs. Winton, Mr. Jack Prevezer and Mr. M. Ussoskin of Keren Hayesod Head Office.

## HAMPSTEAD J.P.A. COMMITTEE

Hampstead and St. John's Wood key-workers were guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Richtiger at a gathering attended also by the Mayor and Mayoress of Hampstead, Councillor and Mrs. E. Snowman, and by the Consul of the Israel Embassy and Mrs. Amir.

This was a social evening to enable the leaders of Hampstead's J.P.A. effort to thank their fellow workers for their support. Both Mr. M. B. Berlin and Councillor Snowman spoke.

The Consul then delivered a brief address on the significance of Chanukah, commending the Jewish festive atmosphere he found in the Richtigers' home, and Mr. B. Raperport expressed thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress for the leadership they had given the district. Mr. D. Caplan of St. John's Wood spoke on behalf of his committee and good wishes were sent to his co-chairman, Mr. M. V. Jacobs, now recovering from illness.

This "at home" terminated with expressions of goodwill to Mr. and Mrs. Richtiger for their hospitality.

## THANKS FOR CONDOLENCES

Cecilia Weller of the J.P.A. sincerely thanks her colleagues and friends for their kind messages of condolence on her recent sad loss.



# JPA-JNF NEWS

## LEEDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TRADITIONAL RESULTS INCREASED

More than 400 people were present at the Jubilee Hall to welcome Mr. Max Weiner who was paying his farewell visit to Leeds prior to his return to Israel. The occasion was the annual general meeting of the Leeds J.N.F. Commission.

Following the minutes read by Miss Doreen Jackson and the financial Report presented by Cllr. K. C. Cohen, the annual report was given by the chairman, Mr. John Goldstone. It was a report of improvements and progress in all aspects of J.N.F. work in the city. There was increased income from Boxes, Trees and Golden Books, more Boxes placed, two new Fellowships formed in the year, and encouraging support from WIZO and the Leeds Jewish Sportsmen's Committee. Tribute was paid by Mr. Goldstone to the hon. officers, Mr. J. Biron, Mr. S. Garson and the office staff and he appealed to the gathering to make an all-out effort to help place J.N.F. boxes in the forthcoming year. The most outstanding boxholder was Rabbi Hodess, whose presence and short address were received with acclamation.

The financial improvements mentioned

## TREES IN ERETZ ISRAEL

### London-Leeds

15 trees by the Leeds Agudat Hazionim Zionist Association in the name of Mr. Simpson Solk on the occasion of the Marriage of his daughter, Sylvia Solk, to Sidney Woolf, in appreciation of his services as Chairman, 31st August.

### Birmingham

30 trees by the Birmingham Hebrew Congregation in the name of Mrs. S. I. Solomons, in appreciation of the services rendered to the Hebrew and Religious Instruction Committee.

### Leeds

60 trees in the names of Maureen Phillips and Dr. Jeffrey Selwyn Crawford on the occasion of their Marriage by the parents of the Bride, 26th October.

21 trees in the names of Eric Jack Orbaum and Marjorie Teeman on the occasion of their Marriage by the parents of the Bride and Bridegroom, 18th October.

### Liverpool

18 trees in the name of Stephen Ralph on the occasion of his Barmitzvah by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ralph, 31st October.

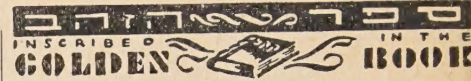
15 trees in the name of Howard Phillip Rifkin on the occasion of his Birth by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Rifkin, 14th September.

by Cllr. Cohen in his report were an increase of £120 in Box income to £2,935, an increase of £659 in Tree income to £1,636, and the Golden Book income of £1,075 showed an increase of £331. The income from Functions was over £7,000 (as a result of the Blue & White Bazaar), the Boxing Tournament of the Jewish Sportsmen's Committee, and dances, theatre shows and socials organised by the various Fellowships. Functions income showed an increase of over £3,000.

The following officers were elected:—

Chairman, Mr. J. Goldstone; joint vice-chairmen, Mr. G. I. Friedman and Mr. N. Silman; treasurer, Cllr. K. C. Cohen; joint hon. secretaries, Miss D. Jackson and Dr. M. S. Novis; Box Officer, Mr. M. M. Simons; Education Officer, Dr. H. Edelston; Functions Officer, Mr. Bob Fox; Simchat Officer, Mr. Max Brostoff.

Prior to his address, Mr. Weiner was presented with a Golden Book Certificate by Mr. G. I. Friedman, on behalf of the Leeds J.N.F. Commission, as a token of the friendship and appreciation with which he was regarded in the city. The events leading up to the Quibya incident and the recent condemnation of Israel



### Leeds

Max Weiner on the occasion of his return to Israel, by the Executive of the Leeds J.N.F. Commission on behalf of his many friends in Leeds, as a token of appreciation for his selfless devotion to the Cause of Geulat Haaretz. Chanukah.

☆

Morris and Dorah Cohen on the 50th Anniversary of their Marriage which took place on September 10th, 1903, by the Leeds (Agudat Hazionim) Zionist Synagogue, 6th December.

by the United Nations were analysed and presented by Mr. Weiner in a clear and forthright manner. Israel had established its right to exist but it must now prove to the world that it had the ability to exist. Mr. Weiner ended his address with a clarion call to the audience. Making reference to the festival of Chanukah he compared the function of the Shammash candle without which the glory of the lights would not show, to the Jewish people in the Diaspora. "We must all learn to be the servants of our people so that the glory of Israel would shine throughout the world."

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## JPA - JNF NEWS

## Up and Down the Country

MANCHESTER SPORTSMEN'S  
SUCCESS

The traditional atmosphere of Manchester's Blue and White Ball was once again produced when on Thursday, 3rd December, the Manchester Jewish Sportsmen's Committee held their sixth annual function at the Midland Hotel.

Some 650 guests were present and the ball was attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Manchester, Alderman and Mrs. A. Moss, by the Mayor and Mayoress of Salford, Alderman Dr. and Mrs. J. Shlosberg, and by Mr. Max Weiner, out-going Director of the J.N.F. of Great Britain and Ireland, who had paid a special visit to Manchester and at the ball took leave of friends before his return to Israel.

Mr. Sol Freedman, chairman of the Manchester Jewish Sportsmen's Committee, and Mrs. Freedman welcomed the guests who, by their presence, contributed about £7,000 to the Jewish National Fund.

## BIRMINGHAM HEARS AVNER

The newly-arrived Counsellor of the Israel Embassy in London, Mr. Gershon Avner, referred to the conditions of Jews living in Eastern Europe when he attended the third annual Blue and White Ball of the Birmingham J.N.F. Commission recently. Mr. Avner had come to this country direct from Hungary and spoke of the hardships suffered by those whose sole desire it was to reach the frontiers of Israel. He was accompanied by Mrs. Avner.

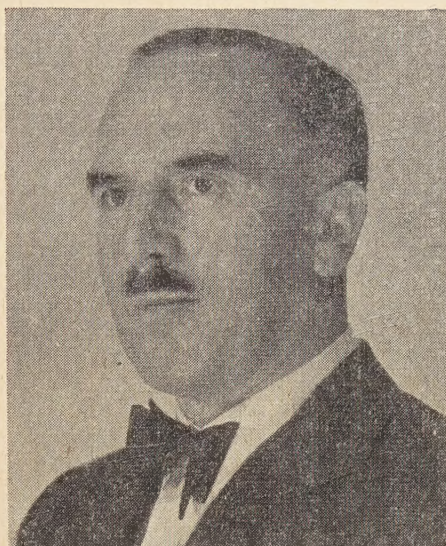
The function took the form of a debutantes ball and there were several novel fund-raising features.

The community expressed its gratitude at the presence among them of one of Israel's leading diplomats and a man well-known for his Zionist activities in Britain before the establishment of the state.

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## NEW L.R.C. CHAIRMAN



Mr. Ivor J. Pomson

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 12th December

**J.N.F. YOUTH & EDUCATION DEPT.,**  
Oneg Shabbat, West End Great Synagogue Hall, 21 Dean Street, W.1. Guest Speaker: Mr. Max Weiner, Director of J.N.F. "Chanukah Highlights," Bnei Akivah Choir, Israel Folk Dances. Refreshments. 7.30 p.m.

(and next column)

Saturday, 26th December

**SOUTH - WEST ESSEX J.N.F. COMMISSION** Annual Dinner and Ball. 6 p.m. Amburst Park Hall, N.16. Dancing to Maurice Sinclair and His Orchestra. Tickets 2 gns. from Miss S. Slowe, 10 Westmoreland Road, E.17. LEYTON 2594.

Wednesday, 30th December

**EAST LONDON J.N.F. COMMISSION.** Grand Performance, Yiddish Play (in aid of the J.N.F. Charitable Trust), Grand Palais, Commercial Road, E.1, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets available from Rev. J. Weisz, 23 Milward Street, E.1.

Thursday, 21st January, 1954

**GOLDERS GREEN J.N.F. COMMISSION.** Dance at Brent Bridge Hotel, N.W.4. Dancing to Johnny Franks and Orchestra. Tombola. Tickets: 15s. 6d. (inclusive of refreshments), obtainable from A. Blake, 65 Southampton Row, W.C.1. MUS. 6111. 8 p.m.

Saturday, 23rd January, 1954

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE** of the J.N.F. present Flotow's "Martha" by British Grand Opera Society at King George's Hall, Great Russell Street, W.C.1. Tickets 5s. to £1 1s. 0d. from Miss L. Cannon, 16 Chalgrove Road, E.9.. Phone: AMH 3190.

Sunday, 24th January, 1954

**KENWOOD & HIGHGATE VILLAGE J.N.F. COMMISSION,** First Debutante Ball, Savoy Hotel, London. 6.30 p.m. Nat Temple and his Orchestra. For tickets and presentation please write to Mr. H. C. Newgas, Madison Lodge, Compton Avenue, N.6. Closing date for application for presentation, December 31st, 1953. Tickets: £2 12s. 6d.

## This week's best boxes

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Mrs. Cohen, 14 Howard Walk ...	8	0	0	<b>BRIGHTON &amp; HOVE</b>	
Mrs. G. Zinkin, 20 Highview Gardens ...	6	10	6	Brighton & Hove Burial Society (collected by Mr. Jacobs) ...	8 17 0
Mr. I. J. Fenton, Desborough House, Sheldon Avenue ...	3	12	6	Mr. Ritter, Flat 33, 4 Grand Avenue ...	7 1 0
Mr. N. Lessoff, 50 Fountayne Road ...	3	0	0	Arych House School, Upper Drive ...	3 5 4
Mr. L. Schama, 39 Cranwich Road ...	2	7	3	Lemberger, 27 First Avenue ...	3 0 2
Mrs. Z. Baro, 35 Church Mount ...	2	0	0	Mrs. Viner, 20 Cannon Place ...	2 18 2
<b>East</b>				Mr. James Radburn, Flat 14, 4 Grand Ave. E. L. Wolfe, 20 The Drive ...	2 13 4
Mr. N. Kaplin, 77 Wilkes Street ...	7	12	0	Mesdames Troubman & Gaetsky, 29 Raphael Road ...	2 10 9
Mrs. Harris, 165 Wentworth Buildings	2	11	8	Mr. Hoffman, 35 Pembroke Avenue ...	2 3 6
Miss Pshygody, 2 Headlam Street ...	2	0	0	Mr. Prevezer, Flat 49, 4 Grand Avenue ...	2 2 0
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Mrs. Schwartz, 281 Bancroft Road ...	2	0	0	Mr. Ritter, 1 Somerhill Avenue ...	2 0 0
<b>West</b>				Mr. Myers, Flat 15, 4 Grand Avenue ...	2 0 0
Mrs. S. Horngrad, 70 Duke Street ...	6	0	0	Mr. Frankell, E.11 Marine Gate ...	2 0 0
Mrs. Sacher, Flat 24, 37 Grosvenor Square	5	9	6	<b>GLASGOW</b>	
Messrs. Landau Ltd., 20/22 Maddox Street	2	9	4	Mrs. M. Sragowitz, 12 Carleton Drive, Giffnock ...	3 0 5
<b>North-West</b>				Mrs. G. Braham, 4 Capel Avenue, Newton Mearns ...	3 2 0
Mrs. Grunwald (Greenwood), 7 Egerton Gardens ...	4	8	0	Giffnock Synagogue, Braidbar Rd., Giffnock	2 14 0
Mr. L. Clayman, 312 Grove End Gardens	2	7	9	Mrs. S. Silverstone, 51 Langside Drive, S.3	2 11 5
Mr. D. Colover, 40 Sidmouth Road ...	2	1	6	Mrs. J. S. Eitman, 86 Batson Street, S.2 ...	2 10 0
Mr. S. Rubinfeld, 48 Moreland Court ...	2	0	0	<b>LEEDS</b>	
Mrs. S. Caverson, 28 Stockleigh Hall	2	0	0	Mr. H. C. Shaffner, 44 New Briggate, 1 ...	6 12 0
<b>Beckenham</b>				Mr. & Mrs. Ruff Cramer, 44 Savile Dr., 7	4 4 0
Mr. & Mrs. J. Collins, 25 Barnfield Wood Road ...	2	7	0	Dr. E. Heaps, 2 Bentscliffe Drive, 7 ...	3 0 10
<b>Edware</b>				Mr. A. Sorkin, 167 Street Lane, 8 ...	2 12 0
Mr. A. S. Lam, 11 Oakmead Gardens ...	2	5	0	Mr. Wayne, 33 Kings Mount, 7 ...	2 0 0
<b>Harrow</b>				<b>PRESTON</b>	
Mrs. J. Armstrong, 12 Mulgrave Road ...	2	0	0	Mrs. Korn, "The Limes," Moor Park Ave.	3 10 6



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